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Our Swiss Firebeacon

Pansies and Primroses

Choice Varieties -- Highest Quality

Retail Catalog, 1945

THE CLARKES

HERBERT F.
MARGUERITE R.

Clackamas, Oregon

Growers of Fine Pansy and Primrose Seed

PANSIES

PANSIES are the garden favorite for which there is no substitute. Especially in separate colors, they afford an unusual opportunity for working out exquisite color combinations, when used as a ground cover for spring bulbs, or for mass planting near flowering trees and shrubs. Try them where you have had Forget-me-nots. Our Pansies are our own reselections of the largest flowered and the finest. Under favorable conditions, the blossoms are from 3 to 4 inches or more in diameter, and of excellent texture, in superb colors and shades, with many ruffled blooms.

CULTURE. Pansies are easy to grow and are unusually hardy and free from disease. The soil should be very rich and mellow, as the pansy is a heavy feeder, with a multitude of fine roots. The plants respond to frequent cultivation and watering, and plenty of fertilizer. This may be rotted barnyard manure or raw bone meal at planting time, and a well balanced commercial fertilizer at intervals during the blooming season, to compensate for the heavy drain on the plants and to maintain the size of the flowers. The blossoming season will also be prolonged and the size of the blooms preserved, if all seed pods and faded flowers are consistently removed. As the plant matures, pick part of an occasional side branch, but always leave the main or central branch. This method of picking will not only provide more graceful material for flower arrangements but will also help to keep the plant pruned and shapely.

The mild climate and fertile soil of the Willamette Valley in Western Oregon, distinguish it as the only location in the entire United States having growing conditions which are identical with those of England, and, in many cases, superior to those of the flower seed producing sections of Continental Europe. Our Pansy seed is grown in this valley, near Portland, Oregon, and is reselected from the finest domestic and foreign strains. The planting is carefully cultivated and fertilized, and is thoroughly "rogued" to eliminate plants not true to type. The seed is fully matured before picking, is properly cured, and is recleaned. It is stored in bulk at the correct temperature, thus preserving its viability, and is packaged only as orders are received. The result is vigorous seed which produces plants having early blooms, with a wide color range, excellent texture, and of largest size.



Hybrid Pansy

MASS PLANTING OF PANSIES. Suggested color combinations:

- (1) Background of Coronation Gold, accented in the foreground by irregular groups of Ullswater Blue.
- (2) Background of Coronation Gold accented by irregular groups of Firebeacon Red.
- (3) Background of Mont Blanc (white), accented by irregular group of Ullswater (blue).
- (4) Background of Mont Blanc (white) accented by irregular groups of Coronation Gold.

Special packets of the four separate colors—red, white, blue and gold—200 seeds each, total 800 seeds, the four, \$1.25.

Complete CULTURAL DIRECTIONS are enclosed with each seed order. These are readily understood and should enable even the beginner to grow a substantial quantity of plants from seed, with comparatively little effort.

WHEN TO START PANSY SEED. It is entirely possible and also practicable to make two separate sowings of pansy seed each year: one sowing in early Spring and another sowing in late Summer. The late Summer sowing provides plants for very early spring blooms or as ground cover for spring bulbs. The early Spring sowing gives plants which will enliven the late Summer and Fall border, or will make a fine ground cover for Chrysanthemums, or other Autumn flowers.

PLANT PANSIES WHERE YOU HAD FORGET-ME-NOTS

FINER PANSY SEED

GIANT SWISS. This famous Swiss type of pansy is round in form and open faced, with a definite blotch. Our re-selected strain has an unusually wide variation of clear brilliant colors, including pink and rose shades not usually found in this type. Its range also includes yellow, orange, henna, flame, carmine, fuchsia and blue. The blossoms are from 3 to 4 inches in diameter, under proper culture, and the plants are very compact.

JUMBO. This hybrid pansy contains many rayed centers and is often two-toned and ruffled. Early blooming, with exceptionally large blossoms, exquisite pastels and striking bronze tones, unbelievably beautiful yellows, purples, maroons, many ruffled. A blossom measuring 4 inches or more, is not unusual for this variety.

HYBRID BLEND. A combination of several outstanding hybrids, each separately grown by us. The color range includes gorgeous shades of velvety red, delicate pastel tones, rich purples, giant yellows, bronze-golds and coppers, with many variations of these shades. This mixture is made up for those who are interested in exceptionally large blossoms and unusual shades of color.

CLARKE'S BLEND. A carefully considered, well balanced mixture of the choicest strains, including both Swiss and Hybrid types, each grown by us separately, and so combined as to afford both early and late flowers of fine texture, with a much wider variety of shades than can be found in any one strain. The blooms are unusually large and the plants are very sturdy. This is a high class mixture of the best seed we grow and is intended to include the brilliance of the Swiss type and the soft pastels and beautiful bronze tones of the hybrid.

CORONATION GOLD is the largest and best pure yellow Swiss Pansy and is definitely fragrant. It is a charming ground cover for blue Scillas or Hyacinths; for red or white Tulips; or for the many red or copper-toned Azaleas.

IMPROVED FIREBEACON. This is a coppery red Swiss pansy—the red of the wallflower rather than a purple red—and often has a definite touch of orange. It is very rich, and at the same time a most unique and striking shade. Is very effective when planted with yellow flowered bulbs or shrubs.

MONT BLANC. Floriferous, with large early blossoms. It is the finest, largest, pure white pansy. A most pleasing combination with magenta or red Azaleas, pink or red Tulips, or yellow Daffodils.

ULLSWATER (Thunersee). A deep ultramarine blue Swiss pansy. It is a stunning contrast, used with yellow flowered bulbs or shrubs.

SEED PRICES

Pkt. 600 seeds, any one of the above varieties, \$1.00;
half pkt., 300 seeds, 50c.

All seed is mailed postpaid.

Complete **CULTURAL DIRECTIONS** are enclosed with each seed order.

SPECIAL

COMBINATION PANSY SEED OFFER

Three regular 50c packets, any variety, regular price \$1.50; special \$1.25.

Three regular \$1.00 packets, any variety, regular price \$3.00; special \$2.50.

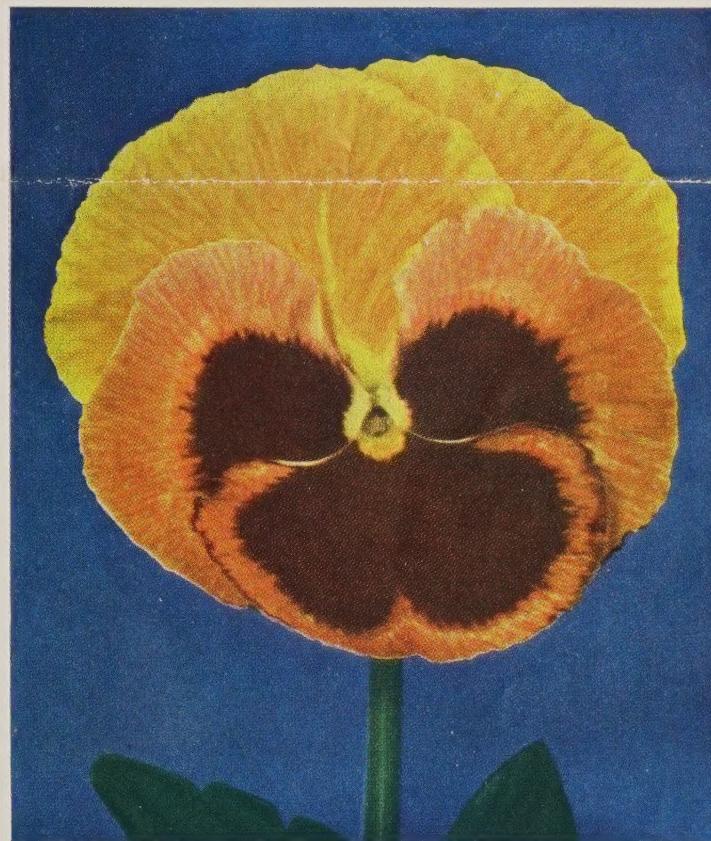
NOTICE . . . GROWERS AND SEED DEALERS. Certain varieties of seed listed in this catalogue are available to the trade. Write for wholesale price list on your letter head.

NEW OFFERINGS

PAY DIRT. Donald Steele's origination. The largest, finest, earliest yellow, with delicate black pencilling. Heavy texture, ruffled, fragrant. Supply limited. Half pkt. \$1.00.

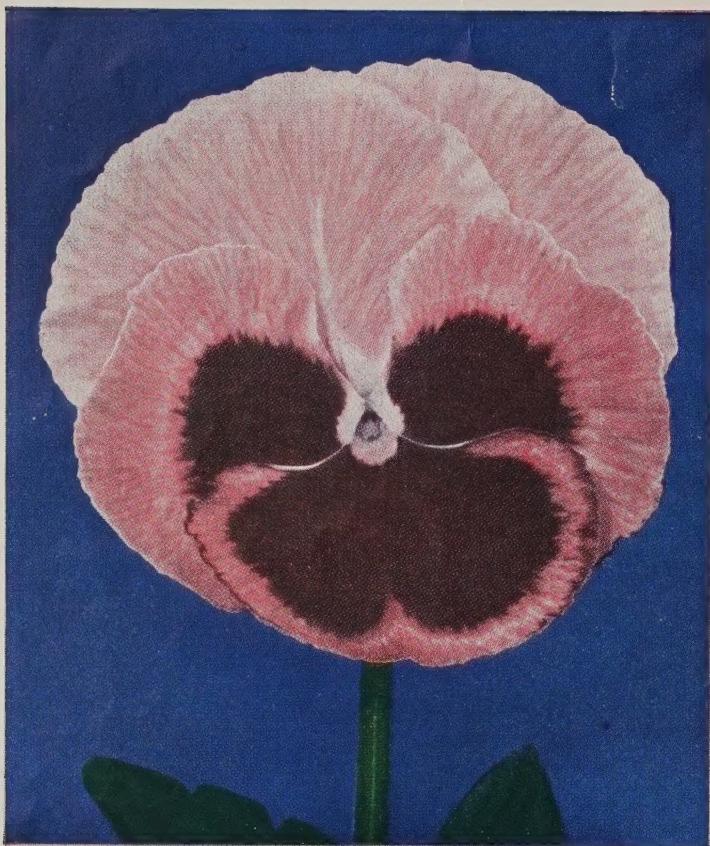
BLUMLISAP. ("Flower of the Alps.") Sometimes called Raspberry Rose. A new Swiss pansy with a color range from palest pink to carmine-rose. Supply limited. Half pkt. \$1.00.

PASTEL HYBRIDS. Special selections from the best pastels. While the colors are not fixed, unusual pastel shades will predominate. Supply limited. Half pkt. \$1.00. Available August, '45.



One of Our Swiss Pansies

PLANTS. Of good size, ready to set out in their permanent location. Available from Sept. 15th thru October to Nov. 15. 50 selected plants \$2.00, postpaid. 100 selected plants \$3.75, postpaid.



The Light Shade of Blumlisalp

PRIMROSES

HARDY PRIMROSES are among the most popular and best known perennials. Massed under flowering trees and shrubs in the border, or naturalized in the woodland garden, they present a gorgeous picture from very early spring until well into the summer. In mild climates it is possible by selecting varieties with different blooming seasons, to have Primroses in bloom the year around. Primulas are the perfect material for the SHADY GARDEN. However, they thrive equally well in east or north exposures or where they are protected from the noonday sun. If planted in sunny locations, deciduous trees and shrubs give excellent protection. Wherever planted they should have a deeply dug, well enriched soil, and should be given plenty of water to prolong the blooming period.

ACAU LIS and **POLYANTHUS PRIMULAS**, and **AURICULAS** are most generally grown. However, the gardener who has not "discovered" the **ASIATIC** types (or **ORIENTALS**) such as the **CANDELABRA**, **CASHMERICANA**, **JULIAE HYBRIDS**, **SIEBOLDII**, etc., has some interesting experiences ahead. Since Primulas come from all over the world, it is possible to select from the hundreds of varieties, a type suited to almost any climatic condition.

When the gardener realizes how much pleasure he receives, each returning spring, with minimum effort, his tendency is to collect more and more primroses. Especially is this true, since hybridizers are continuing to produce newer types, larger blooms, and wider ranges of colors and shades. Because of their lasting quality Primroses are invaluable as cut flowers. They make charming nosegays and exquisite small flower arrangements.

EUROPEAN PRIMULAS ACAU LIS

This is the low growing "bunch" type, having a profusion of flowers with each bloom on its own individual stem. It is early and is very effective when planted in "drifts" in a natural woodland setting, or when used in rockeries, or in borders. This primrose blooms about two weeks ahead of the Polyanthus, thus extending the flowering period of the Primrose garden.

P. VULGARIS. The true English primrose. Free flowering in a soft shade of yellow. Fragrant. Especially adapted to naturalizing. Pkt. 50c. (Sold out till July 15, 1945.)

GIANT FLOWERED. This variety is a great improvement over the older forms, both as to size of flower and shades of color. When in full bloom, this luxuriant plant is a veritable mass of brilliance. The colors are white, yellow, pink, rose, red, purple and blue. Mixed only. Pkt. 200 seeds \$1.00.

COMBINATION SEED OFFER

Pkt. finest Polyanthus Primrose seed, regular price . . . \$1.00
Pkt. Clarke's Blend, Giant Pansy seed, regular price . . . 1.00
Pkt. Pacific Hybrid Delphinium seed, regular price . . . 1.00

Total Value . . . \$3.00

All three of above for \$2.50.



Acaulis

PRIMROSES FOR THE SHADY GARDEN



Our Colossal Pastel Polyanthus

POLYANTHA

This "many flowered" primula has beautiful, large flower clusters on tall stems. The ancestors of the modern Polyanthus are probably *P. Acaulis* and the Cowslip or the Oxlip of the European woodlands. When planted in approximately such a setting, their beauty is greatly enhanced, and their culture becomes extremely easy.

COLOSSAL STRAIN. The blossoms of these Giants are unbelievably large, and the colors are most unusual. Under proper cultivation, the individual flowers can measure from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 inches. They are heavy textured, and are carried in large umbels on sturdy stems. The foliage is lush, well marbled, and beautiful in itself. The color sequence is wide and varied, with many unusual shades, from almost black, dark velvety red, through flame-red, tangerine, orange, copper, gold, yellow and cream, to white; from apple-blossom pink through clear pink to rose, burgundy and violet; apricot, lavender, and many two-toned pastels. Mixed colors. Pkt., 300 seeds, \$1.00.

PASTEL SHADES. Selected from pink, peach, apricot, lavender, lilac, buff, rose, and many two-toned effects. Mixed only, pkt., 200 seeds, \$1.00.

BLUE SHADES. Ranging from forget-me-not blue through sapphire to purple. Their blooms are not as large as those of the Giant Strain, and we have found that the seed is slower to germinate. (Sold out till July 15, 1945.) Pkt., 100 seeds, \$1.00.

WHITE. Giant Flowered. Striking with a group of gold or blue Pansies.

YELLOW - GOLD - COPPER SHADES. Accent these rich shades with Firebeacon red Pansies.

RED SHADES. Dark velvety-red to flame-red. Combine these with gold Pansies in the Spring border.

White, Yellow-Gold-Copper, and Red shades, pkt., 200 seeds, \$1.00.

This seed is gathered from plants ESPECIALLY SELECTED AND GROWN for seed production. All seeds are of the current year's crop, gathered at maturity and are properly cured to insure good germination.

LORD BEACONSFIELD. Tall stemmed, vigorous, early, with beautiful foliage and cream colored blooms. Especially adapted to mass planting or naturalizing.

COWSLIP. Small, bright yellow, nodding flowers. Suitable for the wild flower garden.

Either of the two above varieties, pkt., 50c. Neither available till July, '45.

SPECIAL PRIMULA SEED OFFER

Any one dollar packet plus any three fifty cent packets, regular value \$2.50, for \$2.00.

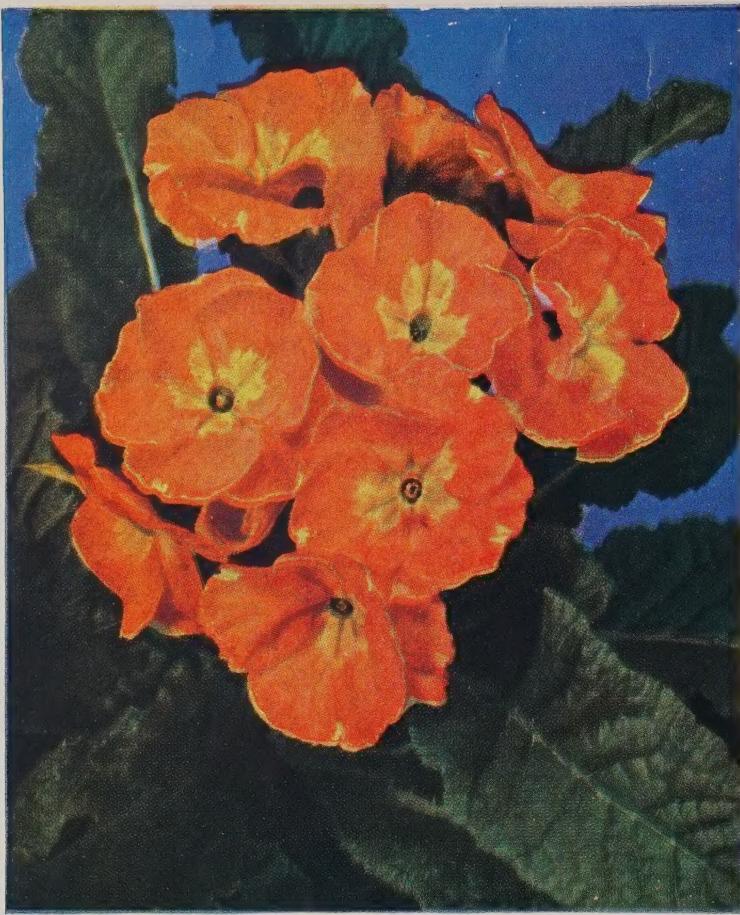
YOUNG POLYANTHUS PRIMROSE PLANTS. grown from especially selected seed, strong, vigorous and ready for their permanent location. Available from September 15th thru October to November 15th. Mixed colors only, doz. \$2.00.

AURICULA

The **AURICULA** is almost as popular as the polyanthus. It is an Alpine plant requiring lime, some shade and good drainage. It is happiest in a moraine, but a rockery with a north exposure is very satisfactory. We suggest sharp sand and rock chips around the roots and crowns of the plant, when grown in the border. It blooms from April till June and again in the fall. From neat rosettes of thick grey-green leaves, spring fleshy stems supporting large clusters of flowers. The colors include yellow, light brown, blue, henna, plum, purple, rose, pastel tones, and some brassy-green shades. The blossoms are particularly effective in small flower arrangements. Although it is a little slower to mature than the *Acaulis* or the Polyanthus, the Auricula is sturdy and lasting. Large flowered strain, mixed colors only, pkt. \$1.00.



Primula Auricula



Our Colossal Polyanthus

ASIATIC PRIMULAS

DENTICULATA CASHMERICANA. An old favorite, originally brought from the Himalayas. Beautiful lavender, heliotrope-blue and white florets, close set, on stout stems. The flowers develop ahead of the grey-green serrated foliage. Mossy, grey rocks make a harmonious background for this vigorous primula. Mixed colors only.

PRIMULA CAPITATA MOOREANA. Like Denticulata, a native of India. The fragrant heliotrope-blue flowers of this primula blossom in late Summer. The under surface of the bright green, dentate foliage, as well as the stem, is covered with a white meal. The flowers are bell shaped and are set loosely. It requires ample shade and water. In our locality it has bloomed from late Spring thru Summer into late Fall.

PRIMULA FLORINDAE. A moisture loving giant from Tibet, carrying enormous trusses of fragrant yellow blossoms on 3-foot stalks. Blooms during mid-summer. The heart shaped, cordate foliage is most distinctive and effective garden material. Sold out till Summer '45.

Any one of the three Asiatics listed above, pkt. 50c.

PRIMULA SIEBOLDII. Handsome and delicate appearing, but very hardy, being a native of Central Siberia, as well as Japan. The lovely, soft, crumpled foliage, and the fine fringed flowers on 10 to 15-inch stems, make beautiful flower arrangements. Flourishes in cool, rich, light soil, light enough to permit its creeping habit. A winter mulch that can be removed in spring, will help to keep the ground

mellow, and will make unnecessary the early cultivation, which might destroy some of the new growth before it shows above the ground. Our seed is selected from pure white, shell pink, orchid, deep rose, and the bluish lavender varieties—Dora and Southern Cross. Mixed colors only, pkt. \$1.00.

JULIAE HYBRIDS

The original of this charming primrose came from the Caucasus Mountains some 40 years ago. It is very hardy and multiplies rapidly. If planted in partial shade and given plenty of water, it will blossom from spring through the summer and fall. Fine for rock garden and border. Try the claret or burgundy-red shades near orange-copper for accent.

The many named hybrids, which have been added to the Juliae family, have so enlarged its color range, that it now contains the pure white of SCHNEEKISSEN, ALBA and SNOW BUNTY; the creamy yellow of DOROTHY; the pink and rose shades of MRS. MCGILLIVRAY, ROSEA, SPRINGTIME, CRISPI, E. R. JAYNES, and KINLOUGH BEAUTY; the blue of BUNTY; the bluish or violet tones of HELENAE, PAM, PRIMROSE LODGE, WEE-GEM, and many unnamed hybrids. Mixed colors only, pkt. \$1.00. (Sold out till July 15, 1945.)

Complete cultural directions are enclosed with each seed order.

PLEASE NOTE. We regret that shortage of both labor and shipping supplies, have obliged us to limit our plant offerings for the season of 1945, to young plants of Polyanthus Primrose, Pansy and Delphinium. These plants will be grown from selected seed, with especial attention to the development of a strong, vigorous root system, so that they will be sure to thrive after being dug and transplanted. We believe that these lusty young plants, set out in the Fall, will produce fine blooms the following Spring, and will prove to be most satisfactory garden material.



Primula Juliae Hybrid

CANDELABRA

This type is well suited to planting at the edges of streams and pools, or among shrubs. It has successive whorls of flowers on tall stems. Since its foliage dies in winter, avoid situations where a stagnant water condition exists during its dormant period, for this condition is likely to rot the crown.

BULLEYANA. From Yunnan, China. The terra cotta buds are almost as interesting as are the orange-yellow flowers growing in tiers on stems which are often 3 feet high. This primrose is at its best when planted among ferns in moist shade.

JAPONICA. A sturdy Oriental, ranging in color from white, pale pink through soft pink and rose-pink to cerise. Especially useful where a sequence of shades is desired.

JAPONICA ETNA. Has a rank growth, with large flowers of bright rose-red. Thrives best when naturalized among ferns in sun dappled shade.

PULVERULENTA. Ranks with the choicest of the Candelabras. The farinose stem identifies this species. This is the best variety for planting near pool or stream. We offer seed of the Bartley strain in shades from very pale pink to watermelon pink, some having a distinct rose-red eye.

OHIO

"I have had such splendid results with the primula seed I purchased from you a year ago that I want to try my luck now with some other varieties."



Primula Pulverulenta



Primula Sieboldii

LISSADELL HYBRIDS

"RED HUGH", a fiery red Candelabra.

CAMEO-PINK, a lovely soft yellowish pink.

Any one of the above six candelabras, pkt. 50c.

MIXED CANDELABRAS, including Bulleyana, Japonica and Pulverulenta, pkt. 50c.

MIXED ASIATICS. A blend of Asiatics selected for long sequence of bloom. Valuable for the gardener who wishes to ascertain what varieties are particularly adapted to his locality. Pkt. \$1.00.

Complete cultural directions are enclosed with each seed order.

SPECIAL GIFT OFFER

Your friends and relatives, who are gardeners, will be glad to receive our fine seeds as gifts on special occasions. The plants will give them much pleasure for a long time. Ideal gifts for

**Birthdays — Easter — Mother's Day
Christmas or New Year**

Send your gift list with remittance and your own greeting cards or we will enclose a special gift card in each package and mail as you direct.

Here is a list of seeds packed for gifts:

Clarke's Blend Pansies. A well balanced blend of finest strains for color, size and long blooming. Pkt. \$1.00.

Polyanthus Primroses. Large flowers in many beautiful shades from our finest stock. Pkt. \$1.00.

Pacific Giant Delphiniums. Remarkably large flowered spikes in white, light and dark shades of blue. Pkt. \$1.00.

One Pkt. each \$2.50. 5 sets for \$10.00.

VIRGINIA

"I think practically every seed came up. My friends said they had never seen such large and beautifully marked pansies—some of them measured over 4 inches across."

PULVERULENTAS FOR THE POOL — AURICULAS FOR THE ROCKERY

GENERAL PRIMULA CULTURE

The SOIL should be deeply dug and enriched with barn-yard manure, raw bone meal, or a balanced commercial fertilizer. When lime is required, it is so stated in our plant list. They should have PARTIAL SHADE, or at least, protection from the noonday sun, require good drainage in winter and plenty of water during the blooming season.

DIVIDE them every two years—Auriculas excepted—otherwise the blooms will become inferior. After plants have finished blooming, or in early fall while the ground is still warm, they should be dug, the soil washed off the roots, and the plant segments broken apart. Trim both tops and roots and replant the divisions, being careful to water and shade them until new growth has become established. Primroses are very hardy and need protection only in SUB-FREEZING weather, when the local practises used for perennials may be safely followed. In localities where early snow blankets the plants, they rarely need further protection. In dry climates, mulch with peat, straw, or hardwood sawdust, but in mild, damp climates, evergreen boughs are the best covering, for they afford air drainage and lessen the danger of rot.

Primroses are unusually vigorous and healthy and the few garden ills worth mentioning in their connection, are more likely to affect plants weakened from the lack of proper care. The strawberry weevil, described as the "white grub of the May beetle", usually attacks only older plants which have been left in the same location for two or more years. Its presence is indicated by yellow leaves, and, in extreme cases, by wilted foliage and blooms. In small gardens the primroses may be dug, the weevils washed off the roots, and the plants reset in a new location. As a preventive for the beetle, from late May through June, use poison bait such as "Go West", following the directions on the package. For the grub, water the ground around the plant with a solution of one teaspoon of permanganate of potash to one gallon of water. Red Spider, a well known mite, sometimes attacks the under side of the leaves during hot dry weather. It is effectively controlled by washing of the tiny webs with a strong spray of water, or by dusting with sulphur. During abnormally wet weather,

black spots on leaves may occur. Apparently these spots do not injure the plant materially, but merely detract from its appearance. Controlled by any fungicide dust containing copper.

DELPHINIUM SEED

Reselected seed of the choicest Pacific Hybrid stock. The florets are of unusual size, from $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 inches in diameter, of fine form and heavy texture. The color range includes both light and dark shades of blue, mauve-pink tones, and white. We have found this strain to be practically disease resistant. Because of their branching habit, the flower spikes have a longer blooming period, and are more valuable for use as cut flowers. Pkt., 200 seeds, \$1.00; pkt., 100 seeds, 50c.

YOUNG DELPHINIUM PLANTS.
Strong, vigorous, ready for their permanent location. Available in October. Doz. \$2.00.

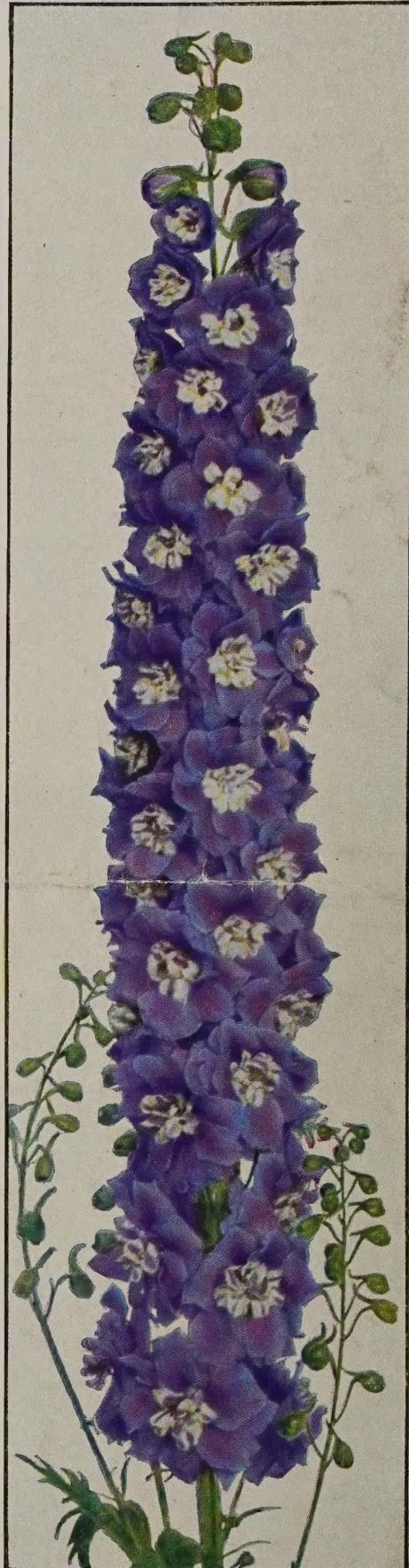
SPECIAL PLANT OFFER

50 Pansy plants, catalogue price	\$2.00
1½ doz. Polyanthus Primrose plants, price	3.00
1 doz. Delphinium plants, price	2.00

Total catalogue value.....\$7.00
The above mentioned three, postpaid,
\$6.00

GUARANTY. All stock and seed is guaranteed true to description, but is not guaranteed for the result of the growing, over which we have no control. Liability under this guarantee is limited to the price of the seed or stock purchased.

LOCATION. Drive south from Portland on Southeast 82nd Avenue, three miles beyond the city limits, to Lawnfield Road ("Primrose and Pansy" sign).



A Pacific Hybrid

THE CLARKES { HERBERT F.
CLACKAMAS, OREGON - - - MARGUERITE R.
Phone: MILW. 2-5607 Lawnfield Road